

ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ
13TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE
MEASURES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3813

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1227 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL: (202) 225-6111
FAX: (202) 226-0611

DISTRICT OFFICES:
7712 CASTOR AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19152
TEL: (215) 335-3355
FAX: (215) 333-4508

801 OLD YORK ROAD
SUITE 212
JENKINTOWN, PA 19046
TEL: (215) 517-6572
FAX: (215) 517-6575

www.house.gov/schwartz

June 17, 2013

The Honorable Tom Corbett
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
2255 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Corbett:

We are currently facing a key decision in Pennsylvania—whether to expand Medicare coverage to 500,000 of our hard-working, low-income citizens. As members of the Pennsylvania Congressional delegation, we urge you to act now to ensure expanded access to health care coverage in Pennsylvania by January 1, 2014.

Under the *Affordable Care Act*, the federal government will fund 100 percent of coverage costs to expand Medicaid eligibility to adults who earn up to 133 percent of the poverty level through 2016, and 90 percent thereafter—a small price to pay to dramatically expand access to care while reigning in unnecessary health care spending.

As a result of the *Affordable Care Act*, our state now has the opportunity to reduce our uninsured rate by 41 percent. Some have argued that the cost to our state is prohibitive as a justification for opting out of the expansion. This is simply untrue.

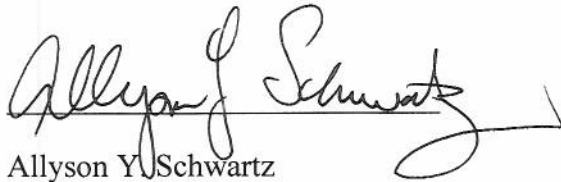
Medical Assistance makes up more than 50 percent of the state's budget and we need to ensure these dollars are spent wisely. Improving access to primary care, preventive care, and disease management through expanded Medicaid coverage would improve the overall health status of the citizens of our state. This will drive down costs associated with preventable diseases and unnecessary hospitalizations. Furthermore, the nonpartisan Independent Fiscal Office recently released a report outlining how Pennsylvania stands to lose \$435 million in revenue if the Commonwealth refuses these federal dollars to expand Medicaid.

Already, 26 states and the District of Columbia have committed to taking on this responsibility, including states with Republican governors like Chris Christie in New Jersey, John Kasich in Ohio, and Brian Sandoval in Nevada. It is now up to you to do the right thing and accept these federal funds to expand coverage to those Pennsylvanians who make too much to qualify for Medicaid under current state law but too little to afford private insurance.

federal funds to expand coverage to those Pennsylvanians who make too much to qualify for Medicaid under current state law but too little to afford private insurance.

It is time to put the good of the Commonwealth and its citizens ahead of politics. We urge you to seize this opportunity to increase access to health care coverage for Pennsylvania citizens by expanding Medicaid and capitalizing on all of the elements of health care reform.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Allyson Y. Schwartz", written over a horizontal line.

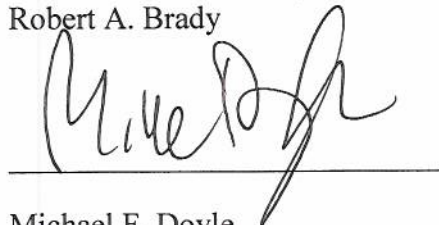
Allyson Y. Schwartz

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Matthew A. Cartwright", written over a horizontal line.

Matthew A. Cartwright

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert A. Brady", written over a horizontal line.

Robert A. Brady

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael F. Doyle", written over a horizontal line.

Michael F. Doyle

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Chaka Fattah", written over a horizontal line.

Chaka Fattah